to be commissioned by end of August, 2005 to provide immediate relief to the arriving passengers.

(c) The project is likely to be completed by October, 2005.

Strengthening of AI

112. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to come out with an Initial Public Offering (IPO) for Air India in order to strengthen Air India and make it capable of competing with other International Airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which Government propose to make the IPO public;

(d) the sectors in which Air India propose to operate after acquisition of 50 Boeing planes; and

(e) the time by which these Boeings will be acquired fully?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) The proposal of Air India to go in for Initial Public Offering is under consideration of the Government.

(d) After acquisition of 50 Boeing aircraft, Air India proposes to operate flights to USA, Canada, Europe, UK, Japan, Hongkong, Bangkok, China, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta, Australasia, Africa, Gulf Countries, SAARC Countries etc.

(e) No firm delivery schedule can be given at this stage.

Expansion of air services in Uttar Pradesh

†113. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received proposals from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh regarding expansion and improvement of air services in view of the vast potential of development of industries and tourism in Uttar Pradesh; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken on these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) In recent past, requests have been received for commencement of direct air services to Kanpur and Allahabad in particular. Air Deccan and Air Sahara are now operating regular air services to Kanpur and Allahabad, respectively. Consequently, the Indian Airlines, Jet Airways, Sahara Airlines and Air Deccan operate and provide air link to Lucknow, Varanasi, Gorakhpur, Kanpur, Allahabad and Agra in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

However, Government does not decide air connectivity to specific places. The operators are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines laid down by the Government in this behalf.

Development of Civil Aviation Sector

114. SHRI BALAVANT *alias* BAL APTE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a comprehensive road map for the development of civil aviation sector is being prepared;

(b) if so, the outline thereof together with its present status;

(c) the details of the areas identified for focussed attention and thrust to make air travel affordable and hassle-free and also to improve the operation efficiency of the aviation industry so as to face competition from the private airlines; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken to ascertain the views of the various concerned interest in formulating the new road map?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Civil Aviation had constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Naresh Chandra, former Cabinet Secretary to prepare a roadmap for civil aviation sector that will provide the basis for a New National Civil Aviation Policy. The Committee had submitted the first part of the report on 08-12-2003 and second part on 02-11-2004. In consultation with the stakeholders in the aviation sector,